

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science

Minutes of Meeting 91-2
of the
Engineering and Computer Science Faculty Council
held
Friday, April 12, 1991

Present: Professors M.N.S. Swamy (Chair), M.O. Ahmad, A. Elhakeem, P.P. Fazio, F.D. Hamblin, G. Martin, O. Moselhi, M.O.M. Osman, R.V. Patel, O.A. Pekau, E.I. Plotkin, P.N. Seneviratne, T. Stathopoulos, G.H. Vatistas, G.D. Xistris, P.D. Ziogas; Ms. Z. Jirkovsky (Library); Caroline Renaud (ECA), Guy Vezina (ECA), John Lyons (ECSCGA); P.M. Bourassa (Secretary).

Absent with
apology: A.E. Blach, T.D. Bui, T. Fancott, D. Feldman, A.M. Hanna, H.B. Poorooshasb, Vicky Ethier.

Visitors: Professor O. Schwelb.

1. Adoption of Agenda

Motion 91-2-1 Council unanimously approved the published agenda.

2. Adoption of the Minutes of Meeting 90-6

Motion 91-2-2 A motion to approve the minutes of Meeting 91-1 was unanimously adopted.

3. Chairman's Remarks

Dr. Swamy passed immediately to the next item on the Agenda.

4. University Library Committee

Dr. Schwelb is the present representative of the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science on the University Library Committee. Having advised the Dean that he wants to inform Council of his concerns regarding the Library and the U.L.C., he was invited to the present meeting.

This is the second time that Dr. Schwelb is elected to the U.L.C., after an interim period of a few years. However, he now finds that the Committee no longer has the power and influence that it used to have. This decrease in influence and effectiveness is reflected in (and perhaps caused by) the fact that the U.L.C. no longer reports directly to Senate, but to the Academic Services Committee of Senate. Also, the Vice-Rector Services, who is an ex officio member of U.L.C., delegated this function to the Associate Vice Rector Services, who was recently replaced on the committee by the Associate Vice Rector Services (Student Life), who did not attend the meeting following his appointment.

Yet, the Concordia libraries are essential to the academic function of this University. Their importance can be appraised from the fact that they employ 42 professional librarians.

A survey made from data supplied by the Canadian Association of Libraries indicates that, out of 39 Library Directors at Canadian universities, 29 report to the Vice Rector Academic, 5 report to the Rector or President, 3 report to Administrative Services and 2 report to others.

The same survey also shows that, out of the same 39 university libraries, only 2, including Concordia, do not have an electronic catalogue.

Dr. Schwelb also said that in view of the new building presently under construction, it is important to ensure that library collections will be near to the faculty and students whom they serve.

He also added that the U.L.C. is presently useless and that the position of Director of Libraries is presently vacant, so that no significant improvement can be expected in these circumstances.

Ms. Jirkovsky said that the main problem in the operation of the Libraries appears to be the lack of support from services such as the Computing Services and Physical Plant. Dr. Fazio commented that

C.B.S. is not getting much support from Physical Plant either. Then there ensued a short discussion regarding the reporting structure.

Finally, Dr. Swamy said that we must ensure that the voice of the University Library Committee is heard. However, it does not seem that this question could be resolved at the present meeting of Faculty Council. Therefore, he intends to arrange a special meeting of the Executive Committee to look into this problem and to invite both Ms. Jirkovsky and Dr. Schwelb to that meeting. He thanked Dr. Schwelb for bringing that matter to the attention of Faculty Council.

5. Composition of Faculty Council

The following resolution was moved and seconded:

Motion
91-2-3

Whereas ECGSC and ECFC adopted the document *Engineering and Computer Science Faculty Council Report on The Review of the Division of Graduate Studies, October 24, 1990.*

Whereas this document states that recommendation 3 of the *Review of the Division of Graduate Studies, October 24, 1990* (the Dean of Graduate Studies be represented on all Faculty Councils) *could be implemented immediately.*

Whereas all other faculty councils already have the Dean of Graduate Studies as a full voting member.

Whereas the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science is very much involved in graduate studies.

Be it resolved that the composition of Engineering and Computer Science Faculty Council be modified to add the Dean of Graduate Studies as a full voting member.

There were some objections to considering this Motion now, as a similar motion presented to Council two years ago had been referred to the Executive Committee, and circumstances have not changed since then. Prof. Hamblin said that the long delay was due mainly to the fact that the question of membership of the Dean of Graduate Studies had come up at the same time as other proposed changes to the composition of Council and had thus become part of a major proposal which required more study and discussions. However, considering that question by itself would make it easier.

Dr. Swamy reminded Council of the discussions surrounding the "Review of the Division of Graduate Studies" and the fact that Council has agreed to the recommendation that the Dean of Graduate Studies be represented on all faculty councils and has further recommended that this could be implemented immediately. Dr. Osman concluded that it would be wise to make that change right now.

The statement in the third paragraph that the Dean of Graduate Studies is a full voting member of the other three faculty councils was questioned. Upon verification, it was found out that he is a full voting member of two faculty councils and a member without voting privileges of the third one, although the latter is presently under review. For the sake of accuracy, it was agreed by the Mover and Seconded to remove the words "full voting" from the third paragraph.

The question was then called and the vote was unanimously in favour of calling the question. Subject to the deletion of the words "full voting" in the third paragraph, Motion 91-2-3 was adopted by a vote of 19 in favour, 1 opposed and no abstention.

6. Graduate Slot Courses for 1991 Summer Semester

Council then considered the six slot courses described in Document ECFC 91-2-2. It was pointed out that the prefix letters to the course number for Aeroelasticity should be ENGR instead of MECH. Also, the prefix letters for the course on Air Pollution should be CIVI as indicated on the list of courses and not ENGR as shown on the course description.

Motion 91-2-4 Subject to these corrections, a motion proposing the approval of the courses described in Document ECFC 91-2-2, to be offered in the 1991 Summer Semester, was carried unanimously.

Motion 91-2-5 Another slot course, Knowledge Based Systems in Dynamics and Design was submitted for approval, and the relative documentation (Doc. ECFC 91-2-3) was distributed to Council members at the meeting. Dr. M.O. Ahmad, Chair of the Engineering and Computer Science Graduate Studies Committee, reported that this course was not considered at the last meeting of ECGSC, but that individual members were consulted and gave their approval.

Motion 91-2-6 Dr. Patel said that the prerequisite shown in the course description did not seem necessary and other members agreed. An amendment proposing the deletion of the prerequisite was moved and seconded,

and it was adopted by a vote of 14 in favour, none opposed and two abstentions.

Motion 91-2-5, proposing the approval of the slot course on Knowledge Based Systems in Dynamics and Design, and amended by Motion 91-2-6, was carried by a unanimous vote.

7. Undergraduate Curriculum Changes

While submitting Document ECGC 91-2-1 for consideration by Council, Prof. Hamblin reported ECUSC's recommendation that "Natural hazards" be deleted from the description of CIVI 361 on page 4 of Section 2, and that the term "Earthquake waves" in the description of CIVI 437, on page 5 of Section 2, be changed to "Rayleigh waves". It was agreed to make the former change but to use the term "Seismic waves" in the description of CIVI 437.

Prof. Hamblin also read out some minor corrections to be made to pages 1, 2, 3, 11, and 25 of Section 1, pages 3 and 9 of Section 2 and page 2 of Section 4.

Motion 91-2-7 Subject to the above changes and corrections, a motion recommending the approval of the curriculum changes described in Document ECFC 91-2-1 was carried unanimously.

8. Adjournment

Motion 91-2-8 Council unanimously adopted a motion to adjourn.